

Appl. No. 10/715,878
Amdt. dated December 2, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 20, 2005

BEST AVAILABLE COPYPATENT**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS****Amendments**

Applicant has amended paragraph [0002] of the specification to conform with U.S. Patent Office requirements.

Before this Amendment, claims 1-42 were present for examination. Claims 1, 2, 4, 14-16, 18, 28-30, and 32 are amended. Claim 42 is canceled; and new claims 43-45 are added. Therefore, claims 1-41 and 43-45 are present for examination, and claims 1, 15, and 29 are the independent claims. No new matter is added by these amendments. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended.

The Office Action dated September 20, 2005 ("Office Action") rejected claims 1-42 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by the cited portions of Patent No. WO/01/19005 A1 ("WO Rabenko"). The Examiner, however, states that cited portions of U.S. Patent 6,819,682 to Rabenko et al. ("Rabenko") are identical to the reference, and the Rabenko column and line number are used for ease of reference. Applicants will also refer to Rabenko in this Amendment.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the amendments to the claims.

35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection, Rabenko

For a valid anticipation rejection, the Office must show that each limitation from the claims appears in a single piece of prior art. Applicants believe significant limitations from the amended independent claims are not taught in the Rabenko reference. More specifically, Rabenko does not teach (1) a second external interface that receives an additional telecommunication service, as recited in independent claims 1, 15, and 29, or (2) combining a signal received from the second interface with at least one separated signal from the first interface to create a combined first signal, as recited in independent claims 1, 15, and 29.

Second External Interface: The amended claims call for a second interface which will receive an additional telecommunication service over a separate transport medium (e.g.,

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satellite, other wireless, fiber optic, copper). Support for the amendment can be found in the Specification (*See, e.g.*, Original Application, Fig. 9, Ref. Numerals 1004, 1012, 1020, 1028). Rabenko, however, calls for but a single interface at which to receive the telecommunication services (Rabenko, col. 2, ll. 42-43; Fig. 2, Ref. Numerals 1010 ↔ 2006).

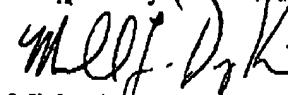
Combining Signal from Different Interfaces: The amended claims recite combining an additional signal received over the second interface with at least one separated signal from the first interface. The combined signal is then mapped on to a separate and distinct internal interface. Support for the amendment can be found in the Specification (*See, e.g.*, Original Application, Fig. 9, Ref. Numerals 1040, 1048a, 1048b). Rabenko fails to contain a teaching or suggestion of the claimed combined signal.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,



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